

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 ( ADP ) R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ PAB: RAFLATEN: MRC

6/22/73 EXT 29552

APPROVED BY NEA: RPD AVIES

NEA/ PAB: PDCONSTABLE

S/ NM: AMBASSADOR HANDLEY

NEA/ RA: TGRANT

S/ S- O R. WRIGHT

----- 036760

R 231749 Z JUN 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 123345

EXDIS

E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: SNAR, PK

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS

REF: ISLAMABAD 5027

1. QAMARUL ISLAM CALLED ON AMB. HANDLEY JUNE 21 EN ROUTE TO DULLES FOR RETURN TO PAKISTAN. WARNER, MUNN AND FLATEN PARTICIPATED. REFTEL RECEIVED JUST BEFORE CALL, AND TEXT OF NOTE SHOWN TO ISLAM. ISLAM'S REACTION WAS COMPLETELY NEGATIVE. HE SAID IT WAS TOTALLY CONTRARY TO JUNE 13 LETTER HE HAD SENT CHARGE. HE SAID U. S. TEAM HAD DONE FINE JOB IN PAKISTAN BUT COULD NOT HAVE UNDERSTOOD COMPLEXITIES AND DIFFICULTIES OF PROBLEM. U. S. SUGGESTION WAS FINE, HE ADDED IF ALL WE WANTED WAS COSMETICS, BUT GOP COULD NOT JUST BAN PRODUCTION WITHOUT CAREFULLY PLANNING SUBSTITUTE CROPS AND DEVELOPING COMPENSATION PLAN, BOTH OF WHICH WOULD TAKE AT LEAST A YEAR AND A GREAT DEAL OF MONEY. HE SAID OTHERWISE ECONOMIC DISLOCATIONS WOULD BE SEVERE, POLITICAL UNREST WOULD DEVELOP  
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AMONG THE UNRULY PEOPLE OF FRONTIER AND BESIDES,  
ENFORCEMENT APPARATUS COULD NOT BE PUT IN PLACE IN TIME.

2. AMB. HANDLEY EXPLAINED GREAT PRESSURE WE UNDER IN  
WASHINGTON TO OBTAIN ACTION WORLD WIDE ON NARCOTICS  
TRAFFICKING AND URGED ISLAM TO SERIOUSLY CONSIDER U. S.  
SUGGESTION, AND IF GOP STILL DEEMED IT IMPOSSIBLE OF

FULFILLMENT IT SHOULD SUGGEST ALTERNATIVE TIMETABLE FOR  
END OF PRODUCTION. ISLAM SAID CEASING PRODUCTION AT END  
OF THIS CROP YEAR WAS SO UNREALISTIC HE COULD NOT EVEN  
CONSIDER IT, COULD NOT EVEN TALK ABOUT IT. HE SAID HE  
HAD THOUGHT THAT DIALOGUE WITH USG ON OPIUM WAS JUST  
BEGINNING, BUT THIS ENDS IT. PERHAPS HE ADDED, USG  
COULD PRETEND THAT THE 1973 IN NOTE WAS TYPOGRAPHICAL  
ERROR AND CORRECT IT TO 1974, IN WHICH CASE THERE WOULD  
BE BASIS FOR DISCUSSION.

3. FLATEN POINTED OUT THAT TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY OF  
ISLAM LETTER INDICATED POSSIBILITY OF MOVING UP  
TIMETABLE IN SETTLED AREAS, AND RESPONDED TO ISLAM  
OBJECTIONS POINT BY POINT ON BASIS OF U. S. TEAM  
FINDINGS, NOTING TOTAL VALUE OF LICIT PRODUCTION TO  
12,000 CULTIVATORS LAST YEAR WAS ONLY DOLS 100,000,  
AND QUOTING D. C. MARDAN, NWFP CHIEF SECRETARY FOR  
AGRICULTURE AND OTHERS IN NWFP TO EFFECT THAT THERE  
WOULD BE VERY LITTLE PROBLEM ENDING OPIUM PRODUCTION.

4. AMB. HANDLEY AND MUNN DESCRIBED SOME OF TURKEY  
EXPERIENCE AND NOTED THAT U. S. AG EXPERTS HAD HELPED  
IDENTIFY ALTERNATIVE CROPS. ISLAM INVITED AMB. HANDLEY  
TO SEND SOMEONE TO ISLAMABAD BEFORE THE END OF JUNE FOR  
SEVERAL DAYS OF TALKS AND STUDY OF PROBLEM IN PAKISTAN.

5. ISLAM THEN EXPRESSED GOP DEEP DISAPPOINTMENT WITH  
FAILURE OF STATE DEPARTMENT TO ADEQUATELY PROTECT  
PAKISTAN FROM CONGRESSIONAL ATTACK IN HARTKE AMENDMENT.  
(PAK EMBASSY HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN DISGRUNTLED THAT WE GOT  
IRAN REMOVED FROM HARTKE AMENDMENT BUT NOT PAKISTAN.)  
EXPLANATION THAT IRAN NOT AID RECIPIENT COUNTRY AND THAT  
IRAN HAS BEEN VICTIM COUNTRY WERE NO MORE CONVINCING TO  
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ISLAM THAN TO HIS COLLEAGUES AT EMBASSY. ISLAM SAID  
HE HAD INSTRUCTED AMB. SULTAN KHAN TO APPROACH SEVERAL  
SENATORS BEGINNING WITH HARTKE WITH LIST OF GOP  
ACCOMPLISHMENTS BASED ON GOP LETTER TO EMBASSY.

6. AT ONE POINT ISLAM SAID THAT PRESSURE REPRESENTED IN  
US NOTE WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. HE SAID STATE

SHOULD POINT OUT TO CONGRESS THAT NO PAK OPIUM KNOWN TO  
ENTER U. S. AND U. S. ENFORCEMENT TEAM COULD NOT EVEN  
IDENTIFY SMUGGLER' S ROUTES FROM PAKISTAN?

7. COMMENT: UNLESS HE HAS A CHANGE OF HEART EN ROUTE  
HOME, QAMARUL ISLAM IS LIKELY TO THROW WHATEVER WEIGHT  
HE HAS IN THIS ISSUE AGAINST U. S. SUGGESTION. IN FACT  
HE SAID WHEN HE RETURNED HE WOULD VERY QUICKLY SEND A

REPLY TO THE NOTE: HE WOULD SAY BLUNTLY, NO, IT CAN' T  
BE DONE. NEVERTHELESS REQUEST EMBASSY CONTINUE URGE  
THAT LICENCES NOT BE ISSUED FOR 1973-74 CROP, AND REPORT  
GOP REACTIONS. AS NOTED IN STATE 116421, DEPARTMENT  
BELIEVES EMBASSY PROPOSED FALL BACK POSITION MORE  
REALISTIC THAN GOP POSITION, BUT WE WOULD LIKE RECEIVE  
REPORT OF GOP REACTION TO MAXIMUM POSITION BEFORE  
PUTTING IT FORWARD. RUSH

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* EXDIS

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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